

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DRC-01

L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIE-00 /066 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7288

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS PARIS 5494

FOR STATE AND CAB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, FR, BE

SUBJECT: CIVAIR -- BRUSSELS-DAYTONA

CHARTER REQUEST

REF: (A) STATE 042847; (B) PARIS 5317

1. EMBASSY SUPPORTS DEPT'S ACTION AND STRONGLY
RECOMMENDS POMAIR CHARTER BE APPROVED BY CAB.

2. EDITOR OF WELL-KNOWN FRENCH AUTOMOTIVE
MAGAZINE WHO ORGANIZED DAYTONA TRIP APPEARS TO HAVE
ACTED IN GOOD FAITH AND IS FIRST TO DEPLORE LATE
FILING BY CARRIER THAT HAS CAUSED PRESENT DIFFICULTIES.
BECAUSE OF KEEN DISAPPOINTMENT OF FANS AND
JOURNALISTS WHO WOULD OTHERWISE MISS DAYTONA RACES
AND INABILITY THUS PROVIDE DIRECT PRESS COVERAGE
PLANNED, APPROVAL OF FLIGHT WOULD BE MUCH-APPRECIATED
GESTURE CONTRIBUTING TO FRANCO-AMERICAN AMITY. WE HOPE
CAB WILL THEREFORE HAVE IN MIND BROADER IMPLICATIONS
OF ADVERSE REACTIONS IN FRENCH SPORTS CIRCLES
AND PRESS THAT WOULD CERTAINLY ENSUE IF DAYTONA TRIP
HAS TO BE CANCELLED.

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3. "VISIT US" PUBLICITY THAT WOULD RESULT FROM FRENCH PRESS COVERAGE OF DAYTONA EVENT IS AN ADDITIONAL FACTOR. US TRAVEL SERVICE PARIS OFFICE IS MUCH CONCERNED OVER POSSIBLE CANCELLATION DAYTONA TRIP AND JOINS IN ENDORSING PRESENT RECOMMENDATION. TODAY'S ISSUE OF AUTO-JOURNAL, WIDELY READ AUTOMOTIVE NEWSPAPER, CONTAINS PROMINENT ADVERTISEMENT WITH PHOTOS FOR PACKAGE TOUR TO THIS YEAR'S INDIANAPOLIS RACE WHICH IS DIRECT RESULT OF US TRAVEL SERVICE-SPONSORED TRIP TO LAST YEAR'S INDIANAPOLIS RACE BY FRENCH JOURNALIST/PHOTOGRAPHER. US TRAVEL SERVICE IS COUNTING ON WIDESPREAD PRESS COVERAGE FROM DAYTONA TRIP TO STIMULATE SIMILAR INTEREST IN FUTURE PACKAGE TOURS TO DAYTONA TO HELP BOOST FRENCH TOURIST TRAVEL TO US.

4. WHILE TRANSPORT BY BELGIAN CARRIER MEANS THAT FRENCH CIVIL AUTHORITIES ARE NOT INVOLVED, EMBASSY HAS ALREADY NOTED (REF B) GOF READINESS ON OCCASION OVERLOOK LATE FILING TO ADVANTAGE OF AMERICAN CARRIER AND CHARTERING ORGANIZATION. WHILE SGAC ACTIONS ARE ADMITTEDLY NOT PRECEDENT THAT NEED INFLUENCE CAB, EMBASSY DOES HOPE THAT UNDERSTANDING CAN BE SHOWN ON THIS OCCASION TO BENEFIT OF FRENCH CHARTERING ORGANIZATIONS. WE HAVE STRESSED TO TRAVEL AGENCY WHICH MADE TRIP ARRANGEMENTS AND TO ABOVE MENTIONED MAGAZINE EDITOR THAT PROBLEMS OF KIND ENCOUNTERED WITH POMAIR COULD PERHAPS BE AVOIDED IN FUTURE IF THEY WOULD ADDRESS THEMSELVES TO ONE OF US SCHEDULED OR SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIERS OPERATING INTO PARIS. IF WE CAN DELIVER ON PRESENTLY PLANNED DAYTONA FLIGHT, GOOD WILL EARNED MAY, WITH LESSONS LEARNED FROM PRESENT EXPERIENCE WITH POMAIR, BRING FUTURE BUSINESS TO AMERICAN CARRIERS.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: SINCE FRENCH PASSENGERS ON DAYTONA FLIGHT ARE PLANNING DEPART PARIS THIS EVENING FOR EARLY MORNING DEPARTURE FROM BRUSSELS TOMORROW, EMBASSY HOPES THAT CAB WILL BE ABLE TO REVIEW BRUSSELS-DAYTONA CHARTER REQUEST AND HAND DOWN ITS DECISION IN UNCLASSIFIED

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TIME FOR IT TO BE COMMUNICATED TO EMBASSY BY IMMEDIATE CABLE FOR RECEIPT PRIOR COB 6 PM PARIS TIME.
STONE

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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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